CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator:		Team:		CCRB Case #:	Ø	Force	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	Discourt.	☐ U.S.
Harry Feigen		Squad #13	3	201606523	v	Abuse		O.L.	☐ Injury
Incident Date(s)		Location	of Incident:		F	Precinct:	18	Mo. SOL	EO SOL
Saturday, 07/23/2016 10:09 PM					Ī	46	1/	/23/2018	1/23/2018
Date/Time CV Reported		CV Repor	rted At:	How CV Reported	:	Date/Time	Rece	eived at CCI	RB
Sat, 07/23/2016 11:24 PM		IAB		Phone		Thu, 07/28	3/2010	5 11:54 AM	[
Complainant/Victim	Type		Home Addr	ess					
Witness(es)			Home Addr	ess					
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	1	TaxID	Command					
1. POM Justin Ortiz	07862		959020	046 PCT					
2. POM Fabian Nembhard	10675	!	955258	046 PCT					
3. POM Lamont Asencio	24128		950027	046 PCT					
4. POM Thomas Geberth	07948		957649	046 PCT					
5. An officer				046 PCT					
Witness Officer(s)	Shield N	о Т	Гах No	Cmd Name					
1. SGT Chikei Ian	3576	9	944664	046 PCT					
Officer(s)	Allegatio	on				Inve	stiga	tor Recon	nmendation
A.POM Lamont Asencio	Abuse: P § 87(2)(b)	O Lamont	Asencio ente	ered in the Bronx.					
B.POM Thomas Geberth	Abuse: PO Thomas Geberth entered in the Bronx.								
C.POM Thomas Geberth	Discourtesy: PO Thomas Geberth spoke discourteously to \$87(2)(b)								
D.POM Thomas Geberth	Discourtesy: PO Thomas Geberth spoke discourteously to \$87(2)(b)								
E.POM Lamont Asencio	Force: PO Lamont Asencio used physical force against \$87(2)(5)								
F.POM Thomas Geberth	Force: PO Thomas Geberth used physical force against \$87(2)(b)								
G.POM Fabian Nembhard	Force: P(§ 87(2)(b)	O Fabian N	Nembhard use	ed physical force aga	inst				
H.POM Justin Ortiz	Force: Po	O Justin Oı	rtiz used phy	sical force against § 8	7(2)(b)				
I.POM Lamont Asencio	Force: Pobaton.	O Lamont .	Asencio stru	ck § 87(2)(b) W	ith a				
J.POM Thomas Geberth	Force: Pobaton.	O Thomas	Geberth stru	ck § 87(2)(b) W	ith a	1			
K.POM Lamont Asencio	Force: PO Lamont Asencio used pepper spray against \$87(2)(5)								

Officer(s)	Allegation	Investigator Recommendation
L. An officer	Discourtesy: An officer spoke discourteously to §87(2)(b)	
M. An officer	Discourtesy: An officer spoke discourteously to §87(2)(b)	
N. An officer	Force: An officer used physical force against § 87(2)(b)	

Case Summary

On July 23, 2016, Sgt. Chikei Ian of the 46th Precinct called IAB to report that had been injured in NYPD custody, generating IAB log 16-26091. The case was received at the CCRB on July 28, 2016.

On July 23, 2016, at approximately 10:00 p.m., PO Lamont Asencio and PO Thomas Geberth of the 46th Precinct responded to \$87(2)(b) s home, which is located at \$87(2)(b) in the Bronx, because his wife, § 87(2)(b) had called 911 and reported that § 87(2)(b) had assaulted her § 87(2)(b) -old son, § 87(2)(b) When the officers arrived at the apartment, § 37(2)(b) answered the door and told the officers that she had called in regards to § 87(2)(b) hitting her son. The officers entered the apartment (Allegations A and B), and PO Geberth went into the living room to interview \$37(2)(b) while PO Asencio spoke with and § \$7(2)(b) in the kitchen. PO Fabian Nembhard and PO Justin Ortiz of the 46th Precinct arrived at the apartment several minutes after the first officers to provide assistance. PO Geberth told § 87(2)(b) he was under arrest, and § 87(2)(b) asked § 87(2)(b) if she was pressing charges against him. § 87(2)(b) stated that she was not, and PO Geberth told her, "It's too fucking late" (Allegation C). A physical struggle ensued in which the officers tried to place in handcuffs and he resisted by holding his hands in the air above his head and stumbling around the room. PO Geberth told him, "Put your hands fucking down" (Allegation D). The officers tackled §87(2)(b) onto a couch, and he was punched and kicked multiple times (Allegations E, F, G and H). [887(2)(b) kicked PO Ortiz in his leg, causing PO Ortiz to fall backwards onto the floor. PO Asencio and PO Geberth both struck §87(2)(6) multiple times in his legs with batons (Allegation I and J). [887(2)[6] fell onto the floor, and PO Asencio sprayed him with pepper spray (Allegation K). The officers were then able to place \$87(2)(6) handcuffs, and removed him from the apartment. As \$87(2)(b) was in the hallway outside of the apartment, \$87(2)(b) started yelling that \$87(2)(b) was bleeding out of his mouth, and an officer stated, "I don't give a fuck if he's bleeding out of his mouth. He can bleed out of his head" (Allegation L). As the officers were bringing [887(2)(b)] down from his apartment in an elevator, an officer told him to "Shut the fuck up" and then struck him in the stomach twice (Allegations M and N). §87(2)(b) was brought to the 46th Precinct stationhouse, and an ambulance was called for him at that location. § 87(2)(b) was transported to § 87(2)(b) Hospital, where his eyes were flushed and he was given Motrin for pain to his knee. § 37(2) was charged with assault, resisting arrest, and acting in a manner to injure a child.

Mediation, Civil, and Criminal Histories

- This case was not suitable for mediation, due to §87(2)(b) s arrest and injury.
- A notice of claim request was submitted to the NYC Comptroller's office on October 24, 2016. On October 26, 2016, it was returned with negative results (01 Board Review).

Page 2

•	§ 87(2)(0)
•	§ 87(2)(b)

Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories

§ 87(2)(b)			

- This is the first CCRB complaint for §87(2)(b)
- PO Asencio has been a member of service for five years. These are the first CCRB allegations on his record.
- PO Geberth has been a member of service for one year. These are the first CCRB allegations on his record.
- PO Nembhard has been a member of service for three years. These are the first CCRB allegations on his record.
- PO Ortiz has been a member of service for one year. These are the first CCRB allegations on his record.

Findings and Recommendations

Explanation of Subject Officer Identification

alleged in both her phone statement (05 Board Review) and in-person statement (06 Board Review) that PO Geberth was the officer who told her, "It's too fucking late." §87(2)(b) account also matched up with the officers in terms of which officer interviewed §87(2)(b) in the living room (PO Geberth) and which one interviewed her in the kitchen (PO Asencio). In §87(2)(b) s in-person statement (07 Board Review) he alleged that a Hispanic male officer was the subject of this allegation, but in his phone statement he alleged it was a white

Page 3

male officer (08 Board Review). PO Asencio is a light-skinned Hispanic male (09 Board Review) and PO Geberth is a white male (10 Board Review). \$87(2)(b) also alleged that the white male (presumably PO Geberth) was the officer who pepper sprayed him, whereas the officers all stated PO Asencio was the officer who did this. Given \$87(2)(b) apparent confusion regarding which officer did what during this incident, the investigation credited \$87(2)(b) account that PO Geberth was the subject of **Allegation C**, and it is thus pleaded against him.

could not see which officer stated "I don't give a fuck if he's bleeding out of his mouth" to \$37(2)(5) while \$37(2)(5) was being taken out of their apartment. In \$37(2)(5) phone statement, she affirmed that an officer made this statement when asked directly about it, but she could not recall which officer said it. In \$37(2)(5) in-person statement, she stated she could not recall whether an officer made this statement to her. All of the officers interviewed denied making the statement, or hearing any other officer do so. Many additional officers had responded to the apartment at this point in the incident, increasing the number of possible subject officers as well. The investigation was therefore unable to identify the officer who is the subject of **Allegation L**, and it is pleaded against "an officer" from the 46th Precinct.

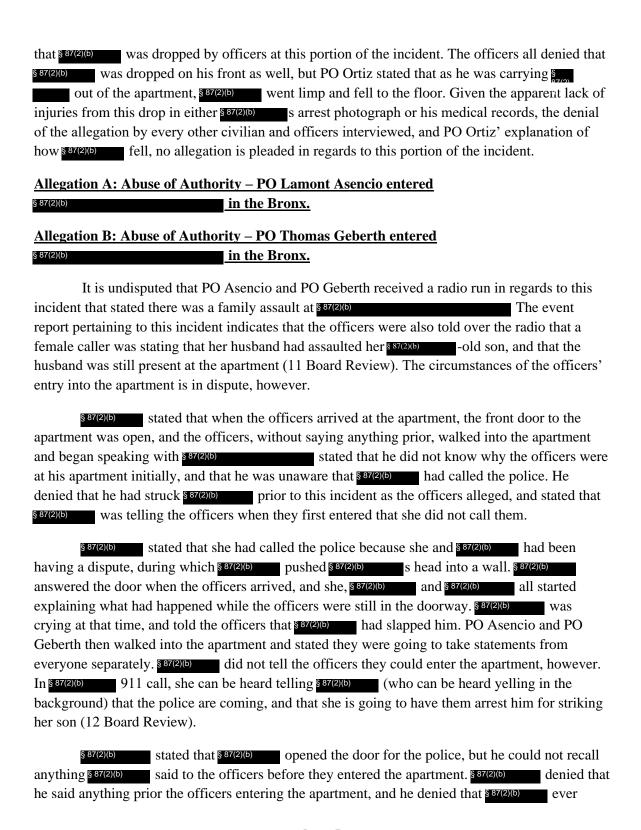
stated there were multiple officers in the elevator with him as he was being transported down from his apartment, and he could not see which officer punched him or told him to "Shut the fuck up," as his vision was still impaired from being pepper sprayed. All of the officers interviewed denied punching \$87(2)(6) in the elevator, telling him to "Shut the fuck up," or seeing any other officer do either of these things. The investigation was therefore unable to identify the officer or officers who were the subjects of **Allegation M and N**, and they are pleaded against "an officer" from the 46th Precinct.

Allegations Not Pleaded

In \$87(2)(b) phone statement, she alleged that an officer called \$87(2)(b) a "nigger" during this incident, but she could not recall which officer said this, or at what point in the incident it was said. In \$87(2)(b) subsequent in-person statement, \$87(2)(b) did not make this allegation, and when asked about it in reference to her phone statement, \$87(2)(b) acknowledged that she remembered making the allegation previously, but she did not at the time of her in-person statement recall an officer calling \$87(2)(b) a "nigger." \$87(2)(b) stated that due to the emotional nature of the incident, her ability to recall specific statements made by officers was very limited. \$87(2)(b) did not ever make this allegation in either of his statements, and \$27(2)(c) denied ever hearing an officer use this offensive language. All of the officers interviewed also denied that any officer ever used this word. Thus, no allegation is pleaded in regards.

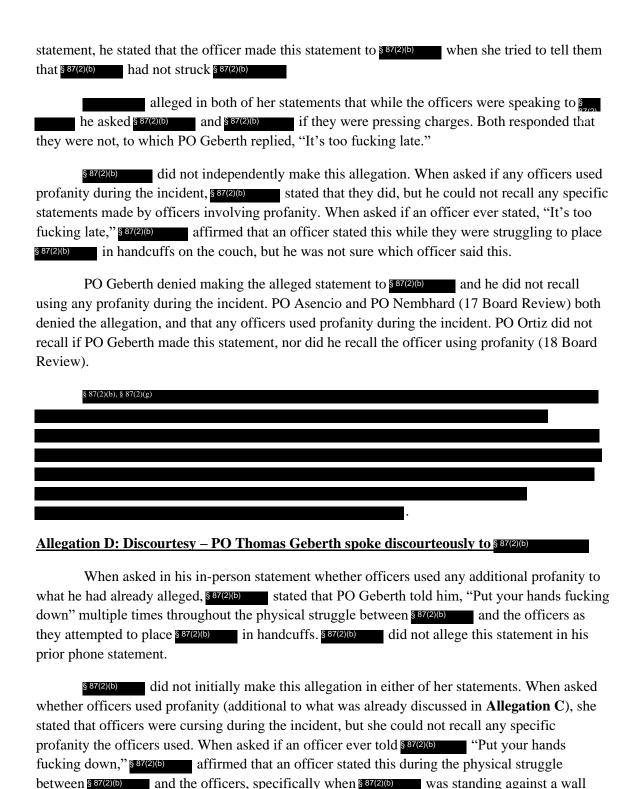
alleged that after he was handcuffed and being brought out of his apartment, officers dropped him onto the floor, with him landing on his front. \$87(2)(b) could not say which officers were carrying him when he was dropped. \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) both denied

Page 4



Page 5

granted the officers permission to enter. \$87(2)(b) stated he only told officers he had been struck by \$87(2)(b) after they already placed \$87(2)(b) in handcuffs (13 Board Review).
PO Asencio stated that \$87(2)(b) opened the door for the officers, and that she was upset at that time, but he did not recall if she said anything to them before the officers entered the apartment. PO Asencio denied that the officers asked for permission to enter, and he did not recall whether \$87(2)(b) verbally gave the officers consent to enter the apartment (14 Board Review). PO Geberth stated that when \$87(2)(b) opened the door for the officers, she explained that she had called 911 because her husband had smacked her son in the face. \$87(2)(b) then granted the officers permission to enter the apartment, although PO Geberth could not recall what exactly \$87(2)(c) said or did to grant them entry (15 Board Review).
§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)
Although warrantless entries into a home are presumptively unreasonable, officers may enter a home to effect an arrest given exigent circumstances, hot pursuit, or consent. Consent to enter an apartment may be implicit based upon the behavior and nature of the interaction that an individual has with officers while at the front door of the residence, particularly if the individual's behavior indicates that he or she is requesting police assistance. People v. Webb, 42 Misc. 3d 1229 (A) (Sup. Ct., Kings Co. 2014) (16 Board Review).
§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)
Allegation C: Discourtesy – PO Thomas Geberth spoke discourteously to \$87(2)(b)
alleged that after the officers entered the apartment, he repeatedly asked them why they were in his apartment, and \$87(2)(5) also protested that she did not need their assistance. One of the officers then told \$87(2)(5) "It's too fucking late." In \$87(2)(5) s phone Page 6



Page 7

CCRB Case # 201606523

with his hands raised above his head.

stated that officers were cursing while attempting to place \$87(2)(b) in handcuffs, but he could not recall any specific profanity that the officers used. When asked if an officer ever stated, "Put your hands fucking down," \$87(2)(b) affirmed that an officer said this to \$87(2)(b) when he was sitting on the floor and raising his arms above his head while officers attempted to place him in handcuffs.

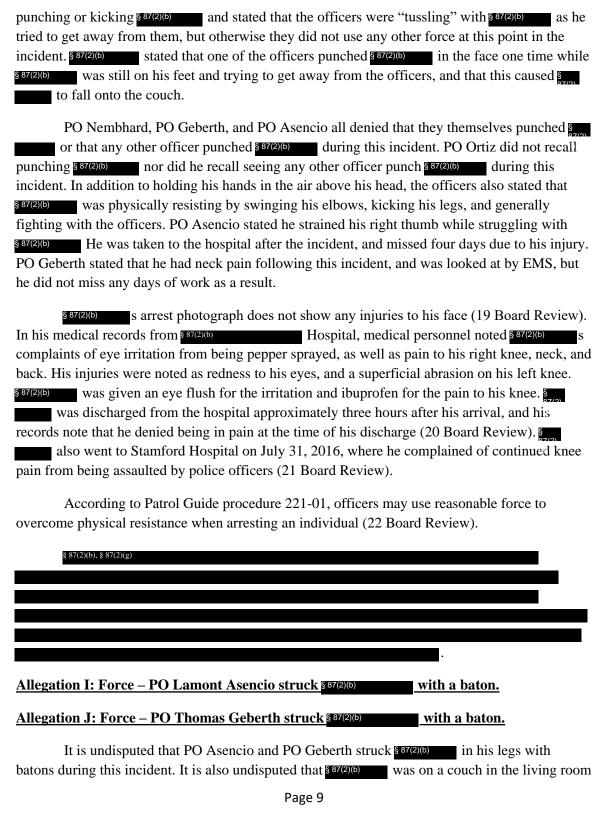
PO Geberth denied the allegation, and did not recall using any profanity during the incident. PO Asencio and PO Nembhard both denied that PO Geberth made the alleged statement, or that he used any profanity during the incident. PO Ortiz was unsure whether PO Geberth made this statement, or whether the officer used any profanity during the incident.

§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)
·
Allegation E: Force – PO Lamont Asencio used physical force against 887(2)(b)
Allegation F: Force – PO Thomas Geberth used physical force against \$87(2)(0)
Allegation G: Force – PO Fabian Nembhard used physical force against \$87(2)(b)
Allegation H: Force – PO Justin Ortiz used physical force against \$87(2)(0)
It is undisputed that after the officers told \$37000 he was going to be placed under

It is undisputed that after the officers told \$87(2)(6) he was going to be placed under arrest, \$87(2)(6) stood up, raised his hands in the air above his head, and told the officers he was not going to be arrested. PO Asencio, PO Geberth, PO Nembhard, and PO Ortiz all tried to grab s arms to place him in handcuffs, and \$87(2)(6) continued to hold his arms in the air, and attempted to walk across the room as the officers tried to hold him. A struggle ensued in which the officers and \$87(2)(6) stumbled around the room, with \$87(2)(6) eventually falling onto a couch. On the couch, \$87(2)(6) continued to hold his hands to try to prevent the officers from placing him in handcuffs, and the officers continued to try to grab his hands and arms and gain control of them.

alleged in his phone statement that once he was on the couch, an officer punched him in the face approximately four to five times. In his in-person statement, \$87(2)(b) alleged that he was punched in his torso multiple times, and then an officer tried to punch him in the head, but \$87(2)(b) was able to block most of these punches to his head.

during the struggle to place him in handcuffs, but she could not describe which officers were doing this. In \$87(2)(b) in-person statement, however, she could not recall any officers Page 8



at that time, and resisting the officers by refusing to give them his hands, and flailing his arms and legs. The officers had been struggling unsuccessfully to apprehend \$87(2)(b) for several minutes already by trying to grab his arms and pull them behind his back. PO Geberth, PO Ortiz, and all stated that \$87(2)(b) deliberately kicked PO Ortiz in his leg at this time as well, causing PO Ortiz to fall backwards. PO Ortiz stated that he sustained a bruise on his right thigh as a result of this kick, and was looked at by EMS, but the injury did not cause him to go line-of-duty. \$87(2)(b).\$87(2)(c)
According to Patrol Guide procedure 221-01, officers may use reasonable force to overcome physical resistance when arresting an individual.
§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)
Allegation K: Force – PO Asencio used pepper spray against 887(2)(6)
It is undisputed that PO Asencio used pepper spray against \$87(2)(6) As discussed above, PO Asencio, PO Geberth, PO Nembhard, and PO Ortiz had all attempted to place \$7(2)(6) in handcuffs by grabbing his arms and forcing them behind his back, and \$87(2)(6) had resisted by raising his arms above his head and trying to move away from the officers. After \$7(2)(6) had fallen onto a couch and kicked PO Ortiz in his leg, PO Asencio and PO Geberth struck multiple times each in his legs with batons to attempt to subdue him. \$87(2)(6) did not cease his struggling and attempts to get away from the officers after being struck with batons, however, and it is at this point in the incident that PO Asencio used pepper spray against \$7(2)(6) are pepper spray against \$7(2)(6) are pepper sprayed, he became compliant and allowed the officers to handcuff him and remove him from the apartment.
§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)

Page 10

Allegation L: Discourtesy – An officer spoke discourteously to § 87(2)(b)

Allegation M: Discourtesy – An officer spoke discourteously to §87(2)(b)

Allegation N: Force – An officer used physical force against § 87(2)(b)

As discussed in the officer identification section, the investigation was unable to determine which officers were the subjects of these allegations. §87(2)(2)

Squad: 13			
Investigator:	Signature	Print	 Date
Squad Leader:	Title/Signature	Print	 Date
Reviewer:	Title/Signature	Print	 Date

Page 11